

REMARKS


Claims 1, 3, 4, 7-14, 16, 17, 19 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hirata, et al. Claim 18 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 over Hirata, et al, in view of Kato, et al. It respectfully submitted that these grounds of rejection have been overcome by this amendment. The examiner has indicated that claim 2 is allowable. The limitations of claim 2 have now been combined with claim 14 and therefore all of claims 1, 3, 4, 7-14, 16, 17, 19 and 20 should be allowable.

It is noted that claim 15 was not rejected in the office action. The examiner graciously granted a telephone interview on May 1, 2009 in which claim 15 was discussed. The undersigned proposed to re-write claim 15 in independent form and the examiner indicated that this action on claim 15 was appropriate.

The undersigned respectfully requests re-examination of this application and believes it is now in condition for allowance. Such action is requested. If the examiner believes there is any matter which prevents allowance of the present application, it is requested that the undersigned be contacted to arrange for an

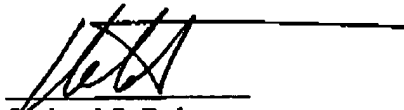
interview which may expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (FAX No. (571) 273-8300) on May 1, 2009.



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